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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BROMSGROVE

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the Year 1959

BROMSGROVE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR 1959

Chairman of the Council	W. EDGAR LEE ESQ., J.P.
Vice-Chairman of the Council	DR. CHARLES HICKS.
Chairman of the Public Health Committee	A.H. HINGLEY, ESQ.
Clerk of the Council	WALTER E. DUDLEY, ESQ.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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A.W. DERRY, ESQ.	F. SANDERS, ESQ.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health	C.H. PHILLIPS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	V. PUGH, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (to 31.3.59)
Chief Public Health Inspector	P.P. CHAMINGS, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector)
Additional Public Health Inspector	R.F. ROBINS, M.A.P.H.I. (Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector).
Assistant Public Health Inspector	K.J. SMITH.
Clerk	MRS. V.M. GARRATT (to 19.5.59) MISS P.V. LAMMAS (from 13.7.59)

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1959

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BROMSGROVE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the Health of the Rural District of Bromsgrove during the year ended 31st December, 1959.

The general health of the population remained good. While there was a slight fall in deaths from diseases of the circulatory system, there was a continued increase in deaths from malignant disease (25.08%) of which cancer of the lung accounted for more than a quarter of the cases, and was almost double the deaths from this disease compared with the previous year. Deaths from respiratory disease increased slightly, probably due to the effects of the increased incidence of influenza in the early part of the year.

There was no case of diphtheria and only one of poliomyelitis (non-paralytic), but there was again an increase in the incidence of scarlet fever which is tending to increase nationally. There does not, at present, seem to be any indication that there is a tendency for this disease to increase in severity.

The total of completed immunisations against diphtheria of children under 1 year on the 31st December has again shown a very satisfactory increase - 51 in 1957, 100 in 1958, and 157 in 1959. But at least half the 614 children born in 1959, could have been immunised which leaves us with an immunity rate of just over 50% among children under one year. It is hoped that the response of parents will continue to improve until we have at least 70% of children under one year protected against this killer disease.

There was again a good response to vaccination of children against poliomyelitis. Vaccination of adults up to 40 years of age was also made available during the year, but unfortunately the numbers presenting themselves for vaccination have not been as great as was hoped. The work was done by the County Council.

At the end of the year there were still 456 applicants on the Council's Housing List. Private building increased from 150 to 242 houses, while only 18 newly constructed Council houses were let as against 35 in 1958. I would again draw the attention of the Council to the fact that many families are still living in unsatisfactory conditions. Many of these are in premises which have been subject to demolition orders, some of them for an appreciable number of years.

A total of 7246 yards of new mains was laid by water undertakings during the year. It should be noted, however, that of the 39 water samples taken from private wells for bacteriological and/or chemical analysis, 66% were reported unsatisfactory.

Bromsgrove Social Services Committee

The Committee was formed in November, 1958. During the early part of the year monthly case conferences were held but these were discontinued owing to the lack of cases for discussion. However at the regular meetings of the Committee, a wide variety of subjects were discussed including, Meals on Wheels, Chiropody Service for Old People, Night Care, Laundry Service for old People, Housing Registration of the aged, Publicity and Boarding out of the Elderly.

A survey was carried out to ascertain whether there were sufficient cases requiring the help of a Meals on Wheels Service, but only 2 cases were found in the Rural District.

Publication of a directory concerning the Social Services in the Urban and Rural District of Bromsgrove was undertaken and this is now ready.

I would again like to express my appreciation of the work done by the Public Health Inspectors, the help given by Officers of other Departments and the assistance given by yourself, Mr. Chairman, and the Members of the Health Committee.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C.H. PHILLIPS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres 45,610		
Registrar General's estimate of resident population (Census, 1951 - 28,172)	Mid 1959	33,950
	Mid 1958	33,470
	Mid 1947	25,230
	Mid 1937	19,620
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book	End of 1959	10,344
	End of 1958	10,146
	End of 1947	7,798
	End of 1937	6,645
Rateable Value, 31st March, 1959		£388,619
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate at 31st March, 1959		£1441. 14s. 4d.

POPULATION BY PARISHES	1939	Estimated 1959
Alvechurch	3,236	5,581
Belbroughton	2,676	2,737
Bentley Pauncefoot	344	355
Beoley	770	836
Clent	1,943	2,130
Cofton Hackett	3,736	4,868
Dodford-with-Grafton	513	659
Frankley	184	172
Hagley	2,233	3,274
Hunnington	543	633
Romsley	1,070	1,166
Stoke Prior	2,130	2,535
Tutnall and Cobley	697	836
Wythall	4,482	8,168
TOTALS	24,557	33,950

VITAL STATISTICS
(1958 figures in brackets)

LIVE BIRTHS

	M.		F.		Total	
Legitimate	344	(295)	263	(279)	597	(574)
Illegitimate	8	(7)	9	(6)	17	(13)
	342	(302)	272	(285)	614	(587)

Birth Rate (Births per 1,000 population)

	1959	1958	1957	1956	1937	1959 - Eng. Wales	
Crude	18.08	17.53	17.45	17.78	14.1	16.5	(16.4)
Comparability Factor	0.98	0.98	1.01	1.01			
Standardised	17.71	17.17	17.62	17.95			

There was a small increase in the number births. The standardised birth rate of 17.71 was above that of the whole country of 16.5

Illegitemacy Rate (Total live illegitimate births per cent total live births)

1959	1958	1957	1956	1937
2.76	2.21	2.59	3.58	3.20

STILL BIRTHS

	M.	F.	Total	
Legitimate	10	3	13	(6)
Illegitimate	-	1	1	(-)
	10	4	14	(6)

Still-birth Rate (Still births per 1,000 total live and still births)

1959	1958	1957	1956	1937	1959 - Eng. Wales	
22.3	10.1	23.6	21.0	38.1	20.7	(21.6)

DEATHS

M.	F.	Total
171 (181)	144 (134)	315 (315)

Death Rate (Deaths per 1,000 population)

	1959	1958	1957	1956	1937	1959 - Eng.Wales	
Crude	9.28	9.41	9.26	9.62	11.1	11.6	(11.7)
Comparability Factor	1.21	1.19	1.17	1.17			
Standardised	11.22	11.19	10.83	11.25			

Major Causes of Deaths (By percentages)

	1959	1958	1957	1956
1. Disease of the Circulatory System	50.16%	45%	51.3%	53.0%
2. Malignant Diseases	25.08%	21.9%	18.8%	18.8%
3. Respiratory Diseases (excluding T.B.)	13.01%	12%	13.5%	10.9%
4. Violent and Accidental Deaths	2.54%	6.3%	3.6%	2.6%

MATERNAL DEATHS

Maternal Mortality (Maternal Deaths per 1,000 total live and still births)

1959	1958	1957	1956	1937	1959 - England and Wales	
NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	0.38	(0.43)

INFANT AND NEONATAL DEATHS

Infant deaths (under 1 year of age).

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	4	4	8 (11)
Illegitimate	-	-	- (2)
	4	4	8 (13)

Neonatal deaths (under 4 weeks of age).

Legitimate	4	4	8 (9)
Illegitimate	-	-	- (2)
	4	4	8 (11)

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

Legitimate	3	3	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	3	3	6

Infant and Neonatal Mortality Rates

	1959	1958	1957	1956	1959 - Eng. and Wales
Deaths of Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	13.40	19.16	15.95	14.87	-
Deaths of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	153.84	-	-	-
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 total live births	13.03	18.74	12.09	10.75	15.8
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 total live births	13.03	22.14	15.54	14.26	22.0

Causes of Infant deaths

Congenital Malformation	2
Prematurity	3
Respiratory Disease	-
Diseases peculiar to the Newborn	2
Other Causes	1

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BROMSGROVE RURAL DISTRICT

1959

Causes of Death	M.	F.	Total	Mortality Rate per 1,000 Pop.
1. Tuberculosis respiratory	-	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
8. Measles	1	-	1	.03
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1	.03
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	5	6	.17
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	15	4	19	.56
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	9	9	.26
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	3	3	.09
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	26	13	39	1.15
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	2	3	.09
16. Diabetes	1	-	1	.03
17. Vascular Lesions of nervous system	21	23	44	1.29
18. Coronary disease, angina	37	16	53	1.56
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	6	7	.20
20. Other heart disease	19	20	39	1.15
21. Other circulatory disease	9	5	14	.41
22. Influenza	6	6	12	.35
23. Pneumonia	3	10	13	.38
24. Bronchitis	12	1	13	.38
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	2	3	.09
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1	.03
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1	.03
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	2	2	.06
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1	.03
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-
31. Congenital Malformation	1	-	1	.03
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	14	21	.61
33. Motor vehicle accidents	4	1	5	.15
34. All other accidents	1	1	2	.06
35. Suicide	-	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	1	-	-	.03
TOTALS	171	144	315	11.22

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

The County Council continued to administer the several ante-natal, child welfare, school immunisation, dental and specialist clinics where much valuable work is done towards the preservation of health of the community and the prevention of disease. The help given at Infant Welfare Clinics by voluntary workers was very much appreciated by the Medical and Nursing Staffs.

The Health Visiting, Home Nursing and Midwifery Services, provided by the County Council, supported by the Home Help Service arranged by the W.V.S. and Loan of Nursing Requisites Scheme managed by the Red Cross, continued to provide useful domiciliary help.

(a) Hospital Services

The following hospitals were available to the residents of the district:-

Infectious Disease	Hayley Green Hospital, Halesowen Little Bromwich Fever Hospital, Birmingham
Tuberculosis	Knightwick Sanatorium Hayley Green Sanatorium, Halesowen
Maternity	The General Hospital, Bromsgrove Mary Stevens Maternity Hospital, Stourbridge Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital, Stourport The Birmingham Maternity Hospital, Birmingham
Children's Disease	Children's Hospital, Birmingham
Venereal Disease	General Hospital, Birmingham Royal Infirmary, Worcester
Mental Illness	Barnsley Hall Mental Hospital, Bromsgrove Powick Mental Hospital, Malvern
Chest Surgery	Hill Top Hospital, Bromsgrove
General	The General Hospital, Bromsgrove Bromsgrove Cottage Hospital Smallwood Hospital, Redditch The General Hospital, Birmingham
Aged Chronic Sick	The General Hospital, Bromsgrove

(b) Laboratory Facilities

Bacteriological examinations were carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Royal Infirmary, Worcester. Analysis of water etc., was carried out by the County Laboratory at Worcester. The Health Department is indebted to the directors of those laboratories for their ready assistance and co-operation.

Figures of immunisation and vaccination carried out are found under Section (F).

(c) Ambulance Service

This was provided by the County Council and the Rural District was serviced from surrounding centres.

(d) Health Education

The Council contributes to the Central Council for Health Education.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Sanitary Inspection of the Area

The Chief Public Health Inspector in his report gives details of the Sanitary Inspections carried out during the year.

2. Water Supply

Apart from supplies to Adams Hill, Clent and to about eleven premises at Chapmans Hill, Romsley, the supply of main water in the District is the charge of various Statutory water undertakings.

Most of the houses in the district were supplied with main piped water supplies which were satisfactory in quality and quantity. There were still, however, many dwellings and farm premises with only well water supplies. These latter supplies were to a large extent, unsatisfactory.

Routine sampling of drinking water from private wells and springs for bacteriological and chemical analysis was continued during the year. The results were very poor; 54% were bacteriologically unsatisfactory while 24% were chemically unsatisfactory.

Sampling at source of main supplies was done by the water undertakings, but consumer samples were taken from time to time in the District. All were satisfactory.

During the year under review, the following extensions of mains were effected:-

The City of Birmingham Water Department	1,200 yds
East Worcestershire Waterworks Company	2,653 yds
The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company	1,915 yds
Stourbridge and District Water Board	1,478 yds

The following water supply extension scheme, which had already been approved in principle, was carried out during the year:-

Dark Lane, Wythall.

The supply to Fairfield was considerably improved by the provision of a main from Wildmoor Pumping Station to Fairfield Village by the East Worcestershire Waterworks Company.

The following was the position with regard to the scheme of water main extensions:-

Alvechurch

Lea End.	Awaiting submission to ascertain grant.

Belbroughton

	Extension of Croppings Green main to Dordale. Guarantee agreement awaited from East Worcestershire Waterworks Company.

Beoley

Gorcott Hill.	Original scheme superseded by a comprehensive scheme now in course of preparation by Surveyor.

Clent

Walton Pool & Vine Lane	Stourbridge and District Water Board requested to have Guarantee agreement prepared.
Adams Hill	Improvement of Pumping and Storage Facilities - action to be postponed until completion of Walton Pool scheme.

Clent & Romsley

Rumbow	Awaiting completion of agreement between South Staffordshire Waterworks and Stourbridge Water Board.

Stoke Prior

Finch End & Finstall Park Farm	Awaiting submission to ascertain grant.

3. Drainage and Sewerage

The following are the Sewage Disposal Works situated in the District:-

Alvechurch	Lye Bridge
Clent	Hossill Lane
	Horse Pasture - Land irrigation
Cofton Hackett	Kingswood Road - to Birmingham.

Cofton Hackett	Cofton Road.
Belbroughton	Weybridge
Hagley	Sweetpool Lane
Hunnington	Illey Lane
Stoke Prior	Stoke Works
	Finstall - Pumping Station to Bromsgrove U.D.C.
Wythall	Houndsfield Lane

Apart from schemes which have been previously considered and are at present in abeyance, the general position with regard to schemes for sewers and sewage disposal at the end of the year was as follows:-

Alvechurch

Hopwood area.	Work in hand.
Tanyard Lane (Relief Sewer)	Plans prepared. Approved in principle, but superseded by more urgent schemes.

Belbroughton

Fairfield.	Approved in principle by Council. Agreement reached with Bromsgrove U.D.C. re charges for reception and treatment of sewage.

Clent

Pinewoods Avenue Area	Work in Progress.

Hagley

Sweetpool Lane Works	Work has continued on this major scheme throughout the year. Not yet completed.

Hunnington

Illey Lane Works reconstruction etc.	Approved in principle by Council Detailed scheme to be prepared.

Stoke Prior

Henbrook Works Extension.	Surveyor to investigate possibility of palliative scheme.

Wythall

Inkford & Tanners Green.	Approved in principle by Council
Shawbrook Area.	Approved in principle by Council.
Houndsfield Lane - Works reconstruction; sewering part Station Rd. & part Alcester Rd.	Approved in principle and submitted to Ministry

Pail Emptying

Pail emptying service was continued at fortnightly intervals in Stoke Prior and in a portion of Wythall Parish.

4. Public Cleansing

This service continued to be administered by the Surveyor's Department. Domestic refuse is collected fortnightly and cesspools emptied quarterly free of charge.

SECTION D

HOUSING

As will be seen from figures under Section A of this report the population of the district was increased by 480. Although 18 houses were erected by the Council and 242 by private enterprise, the general position remained much the same, there still being 456 applicants on the Council's housing list.

Details of action taken under the Housing and Public Health Acts are included in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Routine inspections of food premises were continued during the year, and every effort was made to ensure the clean and safe handling of foodstuffs. Further reference to the subject is made in the Chief Public Health Inspector's Report.

Food Poisoning

Two individual cases of food poisoning were notified during the year. Investigation failed to show the cause.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifiable Disease 1959

DISEASE	Corrected Notifications	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Smallpox	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	37	-	-
Measles	309	-	1
Whooping Cough	18	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-
Dysentery	5	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	-	-
Acute Encephalitis	-	-	-
Erysipelas	2	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	13	-	13
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	2	-	-
TOTAL	388	-	14

Diphtheria Immunisation

The number of children immunised during the year was as follows:-

Primary Immunisation

Under 5 years old	387	(512)
5 - 14 years old	33	(17)
	420	(529)
Re-inforcing (Booster) injections	320	(250)

The "Immunisation State" of children in the Rural District on 31st December, 1959, was as follows:-

Age at 31.12.59. i.e. Born in year	Under 1 1959	1-4 1955-1958	5-9 1950-1954	10-14 1945-1949	Under 15 Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster), 1955 - 1959	157	1,462	1,508	127	3,254
1954 or earlier	-	-	729	1,932	2,661
Number of births	614	2,127			

Smallpox

No case of smallpox was reported.

Number of persons Vaccinated (or Revaccinated) during 1959:-

Age at 31.12.59 i.e. Born in Year	Under 1 1959	1 1958	2-4 1955-1957	5-14 1945 -1954	15 and over 1944	Total
Number Vaccinated	311	1	5	3	7	327
Number Revaccinated	-	-	-	1	14	15

The number of babies Vaccinated showed a decrease over the previous year. The figure of 311 was 51.8% of the average number of babies born in the two years 1959-1958 which was 600.

Whooping Cough

Number of children who have completed a primary course (normally 3 injections) of pertussis vaccine (singly or in combination) in the Authority's area during the year ended 31.12.59.

0-4 years	5-14 years	Total
375	18	393

Tuberculosis

Incidence and Mortality during 1959

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	1	1	-	-		-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	2	6	-	-		-	-	-

Tuberculosis continued to be notified to the district Council. The Statutory duty of keeping the Tuberculosis Register rested with the County Council.

The District Health Department continued to maintain a list of individuals resident within the district notified as suffering from Tuberculosis, which was kept up-to-date by information received from the County Medical Officer of Health.

Eight cases of pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year.

The total number of registered cases was 159 (152) as follows:-

	M.	F.	Total
Pulmonary	75	72	147
Non-Pulmonary	7	5	12
Total	82	77	159

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1959

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BROMSGROVE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Report for the year 1959.

A new type of Standard Grant for the improvement of houses was introduced by the Government during the year, and 13 applications were approved, in addition to 29 applications for Discretionary Grants. Work was completed at 28 properties and grants totalling £4,662. 10s. were certified for payment.

Three Demolition Orders and one Closing Order were made, 65 premises were repaired and 13 applications received for Certificates of Disrepair.

Various new, lengths of water main were laid by the Water Companies, as set out in my report, but the Portway and Gorcott Hill areas of Beoley, and the Rumbow, Vine Lane and Walton Pool areas of Clent were still in need of piped supplies.

A start was made on the sewering of the Hopwood area. Work on the reconstruction of the Hagley Sewage Works and the sewering of the Pinewoods Avenue area of Clent Parish continued.

The five slaughterhouses continued to operate and the percentage of meat condemned was small, the meat being of good quality. The 11 samples of milk taken were all negative for M. Tuberculosis, and the 58 samples of ice cream were satisfactory.

Generally the work of the Department has gone satisfactorily throughout the year and I would express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and Mr. Dudley for their helpful co-operation, to Dr. Phillips, and to the members of my Staff.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

PEARSON P. CHAMINGS

Chief Public Health Inspector

COMPLAINTS

A total of 118 complaints were received during the year 1959, all of which were investigated and appropriate action taken.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following are the numbers and nature of Inspections made during the year:-

Houses inspected	1060
Number of inspections and re-inspections of houses ..	2455
Inspections under Housing Regulations	-
Visits re complaints and nuisances	140
Knacker's Yard	31
Vist re Meat Inspection	478
Visits re Notifiable Disease	122
Milk and Dairies	20
Piggeries	128
Schools	3
Factories and Workshops	52
Outworkers' Premises	-
Tents, 'Vans and Sheds	439
Water Supply	168
Works in Progress	402
Drainage	332
Shops etc. (re unfit food)	8
Visits to Shops and Food Premises	300
Rodent Control	92
Canal Boats	-
Outside Interviews..	570
Verminous Premises	-
Miscellaneous	231
Total number of informal Notices served during the year	97

HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:-

(i)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1060
	(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	2455.
(ii)	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and re corded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932.	-
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	-
(iii)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	6

(iv) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) not found to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 63

2. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of formal Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers. 65

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs -

(ii) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit aft r service of formal notices:-

(a) By Owners. -
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners -

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. 1

(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-

(a) By owners 1
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners -

C. Proceedings under Sections 16 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 3

(ii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in anticipation of Demolition Orders 2

(iii) Number of Undertakings accepted under Section 16 -

(iv) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made 1

D. Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957

(i) Number of separate tenements or under ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made -

(ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit -

4. Housing Act, 1957, Part IV - Overcrowding in the district.

It is not possible to supply accurate figures for overcrowding in the district.

General - Housing

Three Demolition Orders and one Closing Order were made during. Two sub-standard properties were demolished as a result of informal action.

Sixty-five houses were repaired, as a result of informal action. In one case it was necessary to obtain a Nuisance Order from the Magistrates Court and when this was still not complied with a further summons was issued and a fine of £5 with £2. 2s. costs was imposed. The work was then carried out.

Discretionary Grants

Applications were approved to the end of the year for 29 houses. One application was under consideration at the end of the year.

Standard Grants

A new system of standard grants was commenced during the year and 13 applications were approved. Eight houses were under consideration at the end of the year. One application was refused, the work having been commenced before being approved.

Rent Act, 1957

A total of 13 applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received in the year. Nine Undertakings were received and one Certificate was issued, the latter from a 1958 application. In two cases the work was done after notice of proposal to issue a Certificate. Two applications were not completed by the end of the year.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There were eight sites licensed under the Public Health Act and eighteen individual licences in force during the year.

The total number of moveable dwellings in permanent occupation throughout the District was 496 mainly modern trailer caravans.

The demand for this type of accommodation arose mainly from persons not previously resident in the District.

The Camping Club of Great Britain continued to maintain their holiday site at Romsley in a satisfactory manner.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk

As the District was in a "Specified Area" all milk sold to the public had to be under one of the authorised Special Designations, and consequently no samples of non-designated milk were taken.

The 11 samples of designated milk submitted for examination complied with the required standard. It will be appreciated that a large percentage of the milk retailed in the District was bottled in other Authorities' areas where it was regularly sampled, and therefore, only a limited number were taken by my Department.

In addition, 11 samples were taken for biological examination all of which were negative for M. Tuberculosis.

The Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949

The following licences (including supplementary licences) were issued during the year.

Tuberculin Tested milk:-			
Dealers Bottling	2	Distributors	32
Pasteurised Milk:-			
Distributors	37		
Sterilised Milk:-			
Distributors	41		

(b) Meat and other foods

There were seven licensed slaughterhouses in the District, but only at five was regular slaughtering carried out. All animals slaughtered were inspected and this entailed some extra work at week-ends and evening.

Following is a summary of the inspections and condemnations which took place:-

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	410	2	20	3054	324
Number inspected	410	2	20	3054	324
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole caracses condemned	-	-	-	2	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	59	-	-	38	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	14.39	-	-	1.39	.30
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	-	-	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	.49	-	-	-	.30

One localised case of C.bovis was discovered.

Routine visits were made to food shops, cafes and public-houses for the inspection of premises and examination of food stuffs and, in the main, conditions were reasonably satisfactory.

A certain amount of foodstuffs of various kinds were condemned as unfit for human consumption at retail food premises during the year.

(c) Ice Cream

The total number of registrations in force for premises for the manufacture of Ice Cream was two and for retail sale only 127.

Fifty-eight samples were submitted during the year for bacteriological examination and the results of the samples were as follows:-

Provisional Grade	1 - 51	Satisfactory
	2 - 7	Satisfactory
	3 - -	Unsatisfactory
	4 - -	Unsatisfactory

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT

Twenty-four licences to slaughter animals were issued under the above Act during the year.

HOUSE DRAINAGE

Ten existing houses were connected to the sewer and 14 were drained to cesspool, making a total of 24 for the year. Repairs were carried out to drainage systems at a further 16 properties.

The question of providing sewers to various parts of the District and improving disposal works where necessary was considered by the Council during the year.

WATER SUPPLY

Two samples of mains water were submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination. Both were satisfactory.

Twenty-one samples of water from private wells and springs were submitted for both chemical and bacteriological examination, and eighteen for bacteriological examination only.

Of these twenty-one were bacteriologically unsatisfactory and five chemically unsatisfactory; sixteen were chemically satisfactory and eighteen bacteriologically satisfactory.

Thirty existing premises were connected to the water main in the course of 1959.

A total of 7,246 yards of new mains were laid by the various Water Undertakings within the District during the year.

Those extensions were principally to supply new development in Wythall, Alvechurch and Hagley.

The duplicate main to improve supplies to Fairfield was brought into use during the year, but there is still the need to provide main water to the considerable number of houses in the district in urgent need of piped water supply, particularly in the Portway and Gorcott Hill area, Beoley; Rumbow area, Clent; Vine Lane and Walton Pool, Clent.

DISINFESTATION

One house was found to be in need of disinfestation.

All the Council refuse tips were periodically treated forflies and crickets where necessary by the Surveyor's Department.

RODENT CONTROL

A full-time Rodent Operative is employed. A total of 229 infestations of private houses, 87 business premises and 55 at agricultural premises were successfully treated.

During the year the Council continued to provide a free service for the destruction of rats at private dwellings, but in the case of business premises a charge was made as previously.

The service was fully used and in addition a considerable number of visits were made for survey purposes by the Operative.

Forty-one contracts were made for the treatment of business and agricultural premises during the year and the income from this source amounted to £220.

Frequent inspections of the refuse tips and sewage works were carried out throughout the year and necessary treatments carried out by the Operative.

Due to the co-operation of the public, possibly because of the free service, 90 infestations were notified. These were in early stages and were thus only of a minor nature, but it seems essential to continue the service to prevent any large-scale build-up.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

No case occurred during the course of the year where it was necessary to make arrangements for the burial, under the provisions of the above act, of a person dying within the District.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIAL ACT, 1951

The premises of one firm are registered for the use of filling materials to which this Act applies.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

The number of industrial premises is not large and as a result air pollution from factory chimneys did not present a major problem.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

PREMISES	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspec-ions (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted (6)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	2	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	76	48	-	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out - workers' premises).	4	2	-	-
TOTAL	83	52	-	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

PARTICULARS (1)	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were Instituted (7)
			Referred		
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):-					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	1	1	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	1	-	1	-